



Eielson AFB, Alaska
Home of the Iceman Team

Arctic Sentry

March 31, 2006
Vol. 46, No. 13

“To Fight and Support the Fight - Any Time, Any Place”

Red Flag Alaska replaces Cope T

by **Airman 1st Class Justin Weaver**
354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force Chief of Staff has announced the Cope Thunder exercise held in Alaska will be renamed and enhanced so it provides complementary training on the same level as the current Red Flag exercise held at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

Red Flag Alaska coupled with Red Flag Nellis will provide the Air Force a common set of exercises in multiple locations that have standardized and equal training capabilities.

“Red Flag Alaska is an Air Force-level exercise that will build on and reinforce Air Force to Air Force habitual relationships,” said Gen. T. Michael Moseley, Air Force Chief of Staff. “Making this exercise a Red Flag expands joint training operations and opportunities to improve interoperability with our allies.”

Red Flag exercises include more than just aircraft and aircrews. These exercises expand the role of aggressor training across the board, to include ground, space and cyberspace training, as well as focusing on air combat at the operational level, he said.

During the Vietnam War the Air Force air-to-air

kill ratio was 2-1. In order to reverse this trend, the Air Force concluded that the lack of dissimilar air-to-air combat training and knowledge about Soviet tactics and capabilities were major contributors to the degradation of U.S. pilot air-to-air combat skills.

“Red Flag Nellis and Red Flag Alaska offer new pilots 8-10 simulated combat sorties before they actually go into combat,” said Lt. Col. Patrick McCrea, 353rd Combat Training Squadron commander. “Statistically, if a pilot could get through eight to ten sorties their survival rate in a combat situation would dramatically increase.”

Although Cope Thunder offered combat sorties there was an absence of a dedicated aggressor unit at Cope Thunder.

“A dedicated aggressor unit will enhance the training value for all participants,” said Colonel McCrea. “We expect the first aircraft to arrive sometime in 2007.”

According to Colonel McCrea, the 353rd Combat Training Squadron has been deeply involved in training transformation and will continue to be responsible for planning and execution of Red Flag Alaska.



Courtesy Air Force photo

An “aggressor” aircraft and a “friendly” aircraft fly above the ranges at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. Red Flag Alaska, previously known as Cope Thunder, is expected to have an aggressor squadron in place by 2007.

See **FLAG** Page 2

Exercise kicks off Monday

by **Capt. David Sulhoff**
354th Fighter Wing Plans & Programs

A basewide Force Protection Exercise, Arctic Gold 06-02, runs 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily Monday through Wednesday.

“This exercise will be a valuable opportunity for all Icemen to better understand their part in the defense of the base,” said Maj. Todd Craigie, 354th Fighter Wing Exercises and Inspections chief.

All units involved will follow published Force Protection Condition checklists and should be vigilant for potential threats or suspicious activity, said Maj. Craigie.

Areas not susceptible to exercise activities, or “No-Play Areas”, include the Fairbanks-North Star Borough schools and base housing areas.

“All other base facilities must react to changes in Force Protection Conditions by following battle staff directives and adhering to appropriate checklists,” said Maj. Craigie.

See **FPCON** Page 2



Master Sgt. Lance Cheung

Into the night

Tech. Sgt. Matthew Freeman performs an operational check of panoramic night vision goggles at Bagram Air Base, Iraq. The 355th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron was chosen for the first operational use of the \$65,000 devices because of the low-altitude mission of the unit’s A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft. The new goggles give pilots a 90-degree view. Adjustment of the panoramic goggles is simplified with the use of snap-on diopter lenses. These lenses allow easy front-focus adjustment before and during flight. Sergeant Freeman is deployed from Eielson.



Tech. Sgt. Julie Avey

ASOS operations

Staff Sgt. Shawn Phipps, 3rd Air Support Operations Battalion NCOIC, explains the functions of a satellite communications system used by Tactical Air Control Party Airmen to communicate with aircraft to Command Chief Master Sgt. Rodney McKinley, Pacific Air Forces, Wednesday.

Victim awareness ceremony today

Program strives to increase understanding about sexual violence in today’s society

A Victim Awareness Tree Ceremony, officiated by Brig. Gen. Dave Scott, 354th Fighter Wing commander, begins at 1:30 p.m. today in the Chapel Annex.

The ceremony marks the beginning of Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April. Veteran Alaska State Trooper, Lt. Lance Dahlke, will speak about sexual assault awareness and his work with victims of sexual assault.

The purpose of Sexual Assault Awareness Month is to increase the understanding about sexual violence in society.

“This effort will help the Eielson community support sexual assault survivors, victims and their families, as well as the individuals and agencies that provide rape crisis intervention and prevention services throughout the year,” said Capt Tina Baker, 354th Fighter Wing Sexual Assault Response coordinator. “The hope is that

a month of intensified awareness efforts combined with continued sexual violence prevention work will bring us one-step closer to ending sexual assault.”

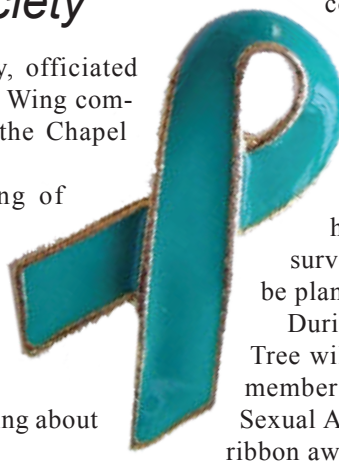
The SARC office looks to encourage the military community to take steps to address sexual violence.

“The Victim Awareness Tree will serve a dual purpose,” said Capt. Baker. “First, it serves as a symbol of awareness that sexual violence is prevalent in our society; furthermore, it provides an opportunity to honor a relative, friend or other victim and/or survivor through the new life of a tree, which will be planted on Eielson this spring.”

During the month of April the Victim Awareness Tree will be located in the Commissary foyer. Base members are encouraged to show their support of Sexual Assault Awareness by signing their name to a ribbon awareness card and placing it on the tree. Ribbons will be available at the library, family support center, education center, fitness center, BX customer service and the SARC office.

For more information, contact the SARC office at 377-7208 or 0027.

Courtesy of the 354th FW/SARC office.



ICEMEN DEPLOYED



Iraqi Freedom: 87
Enduring Freedom: 428
Other: 38
Total = 553
As of March 23

Today

High 35, Low 15

Partly Cloudy



Sunrise: 6:12 a.m.
Sunset: 7:40 p.m.
Daylight: 13 hrs. 28 min.

WEEKEND WEATHER

Saturday

High 40, Low 10

Mostly Cloudy



Sunrise: 6:09 a.m.
Sunset: 7:43 p.m.
Daylight: 13 hrs. 34 min.

Sunday

High 35, Low 15

Mostly Cloudy



Sunrise: 7:05 a.m.
Sunset: 8:46 p.m.
Daylight: 13 hrs. 41 mins.

Flag from Page1

“The past two years on the 353rd CTS team have been exciting,” said Colonel McCrea. “Our overriding goal here in Alaska is to provide an environment where forces can train like we intend to fight. Transformation was a necessary step in order to meet the expectations of our senior military and civilian leadership.”

“Eielson’s strategic value, in terms of combat training, is its vast airspace, varied terrain and advanced range complexes,” said Brig. Gen. Dave Scott, 354th Fighter Wing commander.

The 353rd controls the Pacific Alaska Range Complex’s 67,000 square miles of airspace, one conventional bombing range and two tactical bombing ranges - containing more than 400 different types of targets and more than 30 threat simulators both manned, and unmanned.

“The use of these ranges is key to our fifth generation fighters - the F-22A and the Joint Strike Fighter,” General Moseley said. “The space available and the strides to en-

hance training operations will make this more world class than ever before.”

Additionally, Red Flag Alaska provides a different climate and terrain where joint training can occur between services and allies.

“As Red Flag Alaska is developed, some infrastructure considerations will continue being discussed as a result of the proposed changes,” said General Scott. “These include, but are not limited to, billeting and training facility considerations.”

The 353rd CTS has the flexibility to build a combat training scenario that includes both the threats of today and potential threats for tomorrow, said Colonel McCrea.

“This training, whether it is close air support, personnel recovery, traditional air-to-air or special operations, is applicable to not just our Air Force, but also to our sister branches and international forces,” he added.

The first Red Flag Alaska will occur this spring.

Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle contributed to this article.

FPCON from Page1

Arctic Gold 06-02 will require widespread incident responses by emergency personnel and identification card checks at base facilities.

“Individuals on base during exercise hours need to be aware that their trip to the shoppette or anywhere else may take a little more time than

normal,” said Maj. Craigie. “Icemen and dependents also need to keep their identification card and line badge on them at all times.”

Colonel James Horton, 354th FW vice commander, is looking forward to seeing the Icemen Team succeed during the exercise.

“Force Protection should be part of the Iceman ‘Battle Rhythm.’”he said. “This exercise will remind base personnel of the importance of protecting our critical information and infrastructure, maintaining FPCON measures and practicing everyday vigilance.”

DEPLOYMENT CORNER

Congrats

Master Sgt. Keith Nelsen is congratulated by Lt. Col. Steven Pearson, 379th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness commander, on his selection as senior NCO of the month at Qatar. Sergeant Nelsen works as section chief in aircraft storage operations for the 354th Logistics Readiness Squadron.



TMO provides cheat sheet

With military members constantly moving in and out of Eielson, the traffic management office has compiled a permanent change of station “cheat sheet” to assist Icemen in filling out a TMO appointment worksheet.

Helpful information when preparing to move:

1. Alaska Marine Highway Ferry Reservations: Contact the CTO office (SATO) at 907-377-3145.
2. Icemen will need orders in hand prior to scheduling their PCS/ Separation/Retirement/TDY appointment. The earlier members come in, the

better chance they will have in obtaining their desired move dates. In most cases, it takes 21 days notification from the initial TMO briefing date to get property picked up.

3. Appointments cannot be setup over the telephone.

4. You can obtain the following information at <https://intranet.eielson.af.mil/orgs/SPTG/lrs/lgrt/LGrT.html>.

- TMO worksheets
- Alaska Marine Highway Ferry
- Weight estimator
- AMC pet brochure
- Basic counseling info

- DITY moves
- Shipping your POV
- JFTR weight allowance table
- Firearms
- Excess cost

To view Alaska Marine Highway sailing dates, go to <http://www.dot.state.ak.us/amhs/>.

5. TMO is located in bldg. 354 (Amber Hall) Room 247. Walk-in customer service hours are 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, call 377-1772/1849.

Got improvement ideas?

Base 24/7 wants to hear from you. B.A.S.E. 24/7, stands for: Building Relationships, Advancing Airmen's Issues, Supporting and educating the community and Enhancing the “Eielson experience” on and off duty. If you have an idea or suggestion to improve the quality of life on base, e-mail base247@eielson.af.mil.



CAC provides Icemen additional security

by Mr. Raymond Brant
Air Force Communications Agency

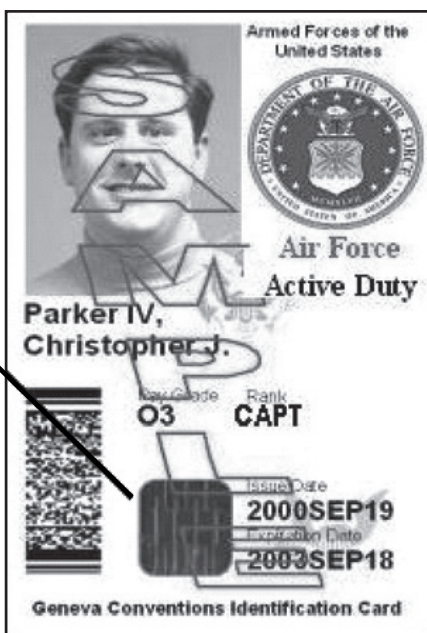
Rumors and urban legends are circulating that the “gold chip” on the Common Access Card contains people’s DNA, family member information or even a complete copy of a worker’s official government records.

“This simply is not the case,” said Maj. Martin Solis, chief, identity management branch at the Air Force Communications Agency. The gold computer chip is where the CAC gets its “Smart Card” nickname. The chip contains personal information which is essentially the same information that was contained on previous ID cards such as name, rank, date of birth, gender, meal entitlement code and organ donor election (military only). Additionally, the chip contains computer programs or applications, which protect the information on the chip, yet allow the information to be read by appropriately configured government computers and Web sites.

Besides those basic functions, the gold chip contains three electronic “certificates,” which are unique identifiers registered by DoD and assigned to each CAC owner. These certificates provide official electronic verification of your identity and also allow you to digitally sign and encrypt e-mails.

Identity: The identity certificate is used to grant access to the network and protected Web sites such as the Air Force Portal and Defense Travel System. By using this identity certificate on the chip instead of the less secure user name and password, we’ve made it more difficult for our adversaries to gain unauthorized access to our networks. For example, a hacker would first have to get their hands on a CAC and then guess the personal identification number. As a safeguard, the chip’s self-protecting application only allows three guesses before the chip becomes locked (at which point a user would have to personally visit the Military Personnel Flight or find a specialized CAC Pin Reset workstation). This mechanism prevents unauthorized use of the card – a security precaution that effectively renders a lost card worthless to an adversary who might stumble upon one.

Digital Signature: The digital signature certificate is used to “digitally sign” documents and e-mail. A digital signature is more difficult to “forge” since your unique identifier is used to create the digital signature. Likewise, a digitally signed e-mail will give



you assurances that every letter, comma, period, space, etc., is exactly what the author put in the document.

Encryption: As the name implies, the encryption certificate protects your data by “scrambling” your e-mail into something incomprehensible by means of a key or code, so that it can be reconverted only by an authorized recipient holding the matching key or code. As such, electronic encryption protects e-mail from being intercepted and read by unauthorized individuals. When using the unclassified network, referred to as the NIPRNET, this encryption is especially useful for Privacy Act Information, Official Use Only and other sensitive but unclassified data. However, one very important note is that even with digital encryption, classified information is still NOT authorized on the NIPRNET.

“As we progress within the information warfare battlefield, the Department of Defense will continue to increase security and protect personal information both on the card and on the network,” said Major Solis. “We all have a role to play in protecting our networks. The information that travels across our network is far too valuable for us to become complacent. The Air Force must, and will, continue to bolster its network security to protect operationally sensitive and personal identity information. Using the “Smart Card” with its gold chip to log on to our networks is one key step in that direction, so make sure you are ready.”

For more information on the CAC, contact your unit Client Service Administrator or the Communications Focal Point helpdesk@eielson.af.mil or 377-2666, opt 1.

Names 2 Note

AIRMEN LEADERSHIP SCHOOL GRADUATES

The following 27 Senior Airmen graduated from Airmen Leadership School on Tuesday.

John L. Levitow Award
Dustin Clark

Distinguished Graduate
Nathaniel Edenfield
Kyle Fenimore

Academic Achievement Award
Nathaniel Edenfield

Leadership Award
Andrew Hollingsworth

Nicholas Scott
Galen Perry
Shawn Wright
Stewart Raring
Michael Golubski

Bruce Underwood
Quarteeya Scott
Brian Hause
Mary Lee
David Rubino
Israel Navarro
Derrick Mattson
Timothy Mcentee
Robert Wooten
John Wiltman
Tony Winkler
Amber Duncan
Steven Benedetto
Kristopher Dunning
Robert Vina
Jennifer Fischer
Christopher Smith
Adam Koon

DWI CLOCK

The Iceman Team goal is 60 days without a DWI.

Days without a DWI: 12
Days until goal: 48



Need a free ride home from the North Pole area or on base?
Call: 377-RIDE from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. Friday and Saturday nights
Need a ride home from Fairbanks?
Call: Klondike Cab, at 457-RIDE (7433) for discounted rides back to base.

AADD VOLUNTEERS

Airmen Against Drunk Driving volunteers gave 11 rides last weekend and have ‘saved’ 4,721 lives to date.

Special thanks to last week’s Icemen volunteers for helping keep our Airmen safe.

Airman 1st Class Nicholas Knott
Senior Airman Ryan Silva
Airman 1st Class Christian Bird
Staff Sgt. Amy Phillips
Master Sgt. Scott Mahar
Airman 1st Class Mike Black
Staff Sgt. Matthew Luetkemeyer
Airman 1st Class Shelby Jacobson
Airman 1st Class Andrew Martin
Senior Airman Erick Durantt
Senior Airman Catherine Jolley

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Airman 1st Class Justin Weaver
Editor



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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the public affairs office of Eielson AFB. All photos are official Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. The deadline for submission of articles for publication in the Arctic SENTRY is 4 p.m. Friday, seven days prior to the publication date.

COMMANDER'S
CORNERCommander's
Hotline
377-6100

The Hotline is your opportunity to get your issues and comments directly to me so I can address them.

Before you call the hotline, however, I strongly encourage you to give the unit involved, your first sergeant or commander a shot at resolving the issue. The Iceman Team takes care of its own, but you should give these people the chance to help. Please leave the names and organizations of the people you've contacted who have been unable to satisfy your concern, and I will look into the problem.

Your confidentiality will be respected at all times. Thank you!

Brig. Gen. Dave Scott
354th Fighter Wing commander

Newspaper
deadlines

ARCTIC SENTRY deadlines are close of business Friday prior to the following Friday's publication. E-mail submissions to editor@eielson.af.mil.

War veteran recalls her service

Their service to the nation during World War II is represented by images like "Rosie the Riveter." However, American women did much more than fill in for the millions of men in the armed services.

More than 350,000 women were volunteers who served in uniform. Viola Smith, a recreational director from Grant, Fla., was one of those volunteers.

At age 24 she enlisted in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps in 1944. Her brother was a welder and one of the 1,150 civilian contractors captured on Wake Island when it was taken by the Japanese in 1941 after a 15-day siege. She enlisted because of him.

"I didn't hear from him, and I wanted to do something to bring him home," Ms. Smith said. "I wanted to join something that went overseas."

She joined the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, or WAAC, which later became known as Women's Army Corps, or WAC. Her desire was to be a first sergeant. Instead, "Smitty," as she came to be called, was commissioned a second lieutenant and became the company commander of dozens of young women. Soon, 500 WAACs and 18,000 men were crammed on-board the refitted troopship RMS Queen Elizabeth sailing out of New York and headed for Europe.

"We were chased by German submarines, and we weren't told where we were going. To conserve fresh water, we washed with salt water and I bunked with the four other women officers in a former bathroom. I was on the bottom underneath four hammocks," she said.

Without an escort, the ship relied on its speed to protect its human cargo. When the ship arrived about a week later in Scotland, on June 6, 1944, they received the news that the invasion of Europe had begun.

Thirty of the women, including Smitty, were assigned to the 5th Army Airways Communications System based in London. The unit provided communications and

air traffic control for the 8th Air Force.

As the "C.O.," Smitty said her first job was to find the WACs a place to live.

"I found them a place on Harley Street, which was on 'doctor's row,'" she said. "All the girls were independent 21-year-olds, so I didn't have to worry about them too much."

Smitty said their first weekend in London was spent with their "heads under their pillows" as "buzz bombs," or German V1 rockets, flew overhead. Some time later, one of these bombs exploded in London's Hyde Park sending shards of glass flying and two of her troops to the hospital. The two were later awarded with Purple Heart medals.

Smitty organized the women into a 5th Army Air Corps company performing teletype operations, and working as drivers and administrative specialists six days a week. Smitty used a razor blade to censor mail dealing with sensitive military issues that soldiers wrote home about. They worked long hours while in London, seemingly dodging the German rockets more often as the allies pressed their advantage across the English Channel.

Many GIs found love in England, as did Smitty. Capt. Dewey McClellan was a pilot, and their romance resulted in a wedding. Captain Dewey wore his uniform and Smitty wore a dress from the Red Cross that she had to turn in afterward for another bride to wear. Her shoes were handmade by another soldier, and the members of her company saved their ration cards for three months so the couple could have a cake.

After V-E day in May 1945, Smitty and other WACs helped set up a headquarters in Wiesbaden, Germany, before heading home on a B-17 Flying Fortress in the fall. Her husband was the pilot but her homecoming was bittersweet.

"I found out after the war that my brother never left Wake (Island)," she said. "He was one of 98 civilian prisoners gunned down by the Japanese in October 1943."

Back in the United States, Capt. Smitty McClellan joined the Reserves and was later recalled to duty. She also followed her husband where his active duty assignments took them, and they raised a family. The family eventually settled in Midwest City, Okla. Her husband retired from the Air Force after 28 years of service, went on to teach high school, and served as the newsletter editor, historian and amateur radio coordinator for their World War II unit's alumni association. He died in 1998.

Still vibrant in her 80s, Smitty takes on a more serious tone when she talks about the pride she feels in having served her country.

"Serving my country as a volunteer during World War II was a big achievement for me," she said. "We all had a job to do and stayed with it until it was over — mission accomplished."

Courtesy Air Force Print News.



Photos courtesy Air Force

Capt. Smitty McClellan (front row, second from left) poses with a group of the Women's Army Corps unit she led during World War II.



Airman 1st Class Justin Weaver

Cuong Dinh, LRS intramural volleyball, leaps into the air as he prepares to pull the trigger on a rocket of a spike against CPTS Monday at the fitness center. LRS defeated CPTS 25-10, 25-17.



Diana Hill

Above, Aspen Valdez guards a Nanook player while her teammates anxiously look on during the state tournament in Anchorage. The girls and boys Ravens' teams both placed 6th in the tournament.



Staff Sgt. Rachel Goff



Staff Sgt. Rachel Goff

Above, Suzie Crosby, right, receives a certificate of accomplishment from the Fairbanks community and a silver coin from the Fairbanks chamber of commerce for winning the Eielson 2005 Spouse of the Year award during the annual Military Appreciation Banquet March 24 at the Westmark hotel. The banquet provides an opportunity for the community to show their appreciation for interior military members and their families.



Staff Sgt. Rachel Goff

Left, Senior Airman Aaron Beil, 354th Maintenance Squadron electronic warfare systems journeyman, explains the purpose of a radar jamming pod March 24 to Lt. Gen. Douglas Fraser, 11th Air Force commander. Above, Staff Delegate Christian Barnes, Rep. Don Young's R-Alaska representative, speaks with Senior Airman William Bemmesderfer, 354th Maintenance Operations Squadron, during a breakfast March 24 at the Two Seasons Dining Facility.

BRIEFS

In honor

The flag is flying at half staff in honor of former Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger who passed away Tuesday at age 88.

Clothing sales

Military Clothing Sales is open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. They are also open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. the first Saturday of each month. Call 377-3385.

DEROS briefing

A quarterly DEROs Briefing for Icemen, whose DEROs is between April and June 2007, begins at 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Wednesday in the Red Flag Alaska Auditorium. Call Michelle Nelsen at 377-2224.

Players, coaches needed

Baseball players and coaches are needed for the base varsity team. To apply for a coaching position,

submit an Air Force form 303 at the fitness center. Players may sign up at the fitness center. Tryouts are slated for 5 p.m. April 15, weather permitting. For more information or additional questions, e-mail Shirley.phillips@eielson.af.mil or call 377-1925.

Switchboard operator

Part-time switchboard operators are needed on base. E-mail resumes to suzanne.crawford.ctr@eielson.af.mil. For more information, call 377-1850.

PACAF DP visit

Col. Ken James, Headquarters Pacific Air Forces director of personnel, will be visiting Eielson April 11. Colonel James will be giving two base-wide briefings. The first will be an update on Personnel Services and Force Development, and the second will cover the latest on the new National Security Personnel System for civilian personnel. Call 1st Lt. Tora Adams at 377-4160 for more information.

LIVE at the Yukon Club

Shelly Lares



**2005 Grammy
Nominee
performs FREE!**



**7 p.m.
Saturday, April 1**



APRIL

ARCTIC SERVICES

MONTHLY

Month of the Military Child

Services Behind the Scenes

Child Development Center

by Connie Storch
354th SWS Marketing



Thank you to the following sponsors supporting
Eielson AFB Month of the Military Child:
*Optimist Club International * Educational Outback
No Federal Endorsement of Sponsor(s) Intended.



Eielson AFB
SERVICES
Combat Support & Community Service



Kelly Singer helps Emma Blace, daughter of SSgt Jessica and SSgt Nicolas Blace, at Eielson's Child Development Center

The first thing you notice about all of these people is the relaxed, intimate nature of the relationship each individual has with Kelly Singer. Immediately, their smiles and body language indicate trust and an enviable bond.

Body language is important, because Singer's charges are too young to speak, at least not in complete sentences. The one and almost two year-olds in Kelly's room at the child development center gravitate to her in tiny waves. They appear certain that Miss Kelly will know what they need and will make sure they get it.

Arms reach up to her, hands clasp, laughter burbles, flowing over Kelly and her workmate, also a child development program assistant. In her room, there between five and ten very young charges. They are at ease around her.

Kelly Singer takes her position of trust seriously. Watching the closeness and obvious ease the children have around Kelly must be reassuring for the parents that leave their child in Kelly's care each day. How can any Iceman hope to give one hundred percent to their mission, if they're not sure that their child is in the best possible care?

Kelly's day begins at 6 a.m. While many of us are still in our pajamas, she prepares her room at the CDC, readying the space with tot-friendly, low level shelves filled with brightly colored toys. The whole room shines, ready to welcome the children. Soon the young people will arrive. They will fill the space and the day with noise, snacks, games, music and the occasional outburst for more than 12 hours.

Obviously most children do not need to be at the CDC all the while it is open. Still, if it's needed, the facility is open 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m. every weekday. And when the Iceman Team goes into exercise mode, so does the CDC, fully operational 11.5 hours a day or more.

Education is a big part of the day, even for the youngest CDC patrons.

Each day the children explore a different sensory development activity. The way the 12-24 month olds experience new things is as exciting to Kelly as it is to the children. "We may be exploring colors, but they'll put the object in their mouth. That's sensory development for a 1 year old," she explains.

Kelly has been at the CDC for nearly two years, and has completed the required training. All Child Development Center staff are required to complete competency based Program Assistant Certification Training (PACT) within eighteen months of employment. Thirteen age specific modules are designed for infant, toddler and pre-school caregivers. Upon completion of their PACT, staff members are required to attend 24 hours of training annually. The key to quality child care is training.

Besides the certification and training, Kelly feels other qualities are needed. A lot of patience is necessary, she says with a smile, noting that, on occasion, a new employee will be unprepared, and will resign within a week. When there's a shortage of employees, the work can be more stressful. The

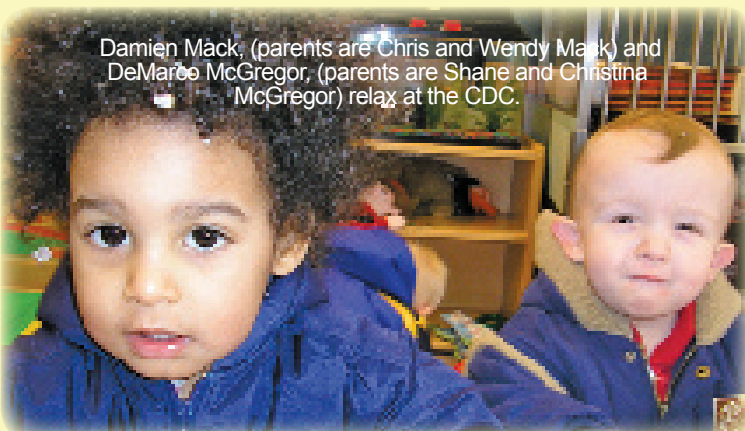
Anyone interested in becoming a child development program assistant, or working with Eielson youth, may contact the 354th Services Human Resources office at 377-3933.

needs of her ten charges remain the same. Kelly says the children's smiles make her day, and are the best stress reliever.

The ratio in a pre-toddler room is 5:1, and with little kids exploring, interacting, learning, there's a lot going on. Just as her husband, Staff Sergeant Jason Singer, shares stories of his day at LRS, Kelly is proud to share hers. Kelly brags about each of the children, their exploits, ups and downs. Sometimes the stories can be confusing. "Who's who?" Kelly's husband wonders. "Don't worry about figuring that out," Kelly says, "All of my kids are cute!"

The hardest part of the job is watching them leave, Kelly says of her CDC kids. "You get attached. Watch them grow. Their personalities develop." Whether they're ready to move on to a room down the hall for the next age group or the family moves on to a new base, it's hard to watch them go.

So what's next for Kelly? She and Jason have been at Eielson for three years. Since this is their last summer at Eielson, the Singers plan to do a little traveling around the state and perhaps some whale watching. Beyond Alaska? The couple is hoping for an assignment to Florida. And if Singer chooses to work at the CDC at her next base, the kids – and their parents – will be very fortunate to have her. For those of us left behind, it will be hard to watch her go.



Damien Mack; (parents are Chris and Wendy Mack) and DelMarbe McGregor; (parents are Shane and Christina McGregor) relax at the CDC.

The Base Honor Guard Needs YOU

Honoring with Dignity

by Lt. Regie Tolentino
354 HG/OIC



Raising the colors: SrA Douglas Jurgens and Lt. Shawwna Conner.

The Eielson AFB Honor Guard is an all-volunteer elite group of individuals comprised of Airman, NCOs, SNCOs, and Officers from different squadrons and base agencies. The Base Honor Guard trains for a variety of color guard ceremonies including retirements, change-of-commands, promotion recognitions, memorial ceremonies, and off-base community functions. In addition to providing color guard support for over 100 ceremonies each year, the team also performs military honors for active-duty, retirees, and veterans funerals. The Eielson Base Honor Guard supports the people of the Eielson Community and is a shining example of the best of Team Iceman.

Honor Guard Benefits

1. Gain leadership skills and career growth
2. Issued ceremonial and HG uniforms
3. TDY opportunities
4. Opportunity to train with the Air Force Honor Guard at Bolling AFB
5. Eligible for Achievement Medal after 1 year of honorable and faithful service
6. Exemption from formal retreat ceremonies
7. Free dry-cleaning of HG uniforms
8. Free AAFES hair cuts



Eielson Honor Guard at attention.
Front: A1C Beau Livingston, SrA Robert Wooten.
2nd Row: SrA Douglas Jurgens, Lt. Shawwna Conner.
3rd Row (visible): SMSgt John Nederhode.

To join the Base Honor Guard or for more information call (907) 388-3158 or email honorguard@eielson.af.mil.

Contact Information:

HG/OIC	Lt Regie Tolentino	377-1700
HG/AOIC	Lt Abby Koehler	377-3135
HG/NCOIC	MSgt Scott Mahar	377-5248

Reflections on a St. Patrick's Day

Customer Response to Yukon Club Bash

The following was submitted via the ICE online customer evaluation system:



Wall to wall smiles at the Yukon Club's St. Patrick's Day Party.

"St. Patrick's day at the Yukon (Club) was a wonderful experience. Great effort went into preparation for this event and it showed. I've only been here for three months and this is by far the best event put together. Not to be outdone were the excellent staff, managers, and bartender tonight. Excellent atmosphere. Being TDY here I wish I had this kind of atmosphere and dedication at my duty station, Fairchild AFB. It's been a wonderful experience coming here and I hope that those working here receive the well-earned recognition they deserve. Thanks, Yukon Club!"

-- A1C Patrick Fitzhugh, Fairchild AFB

Upcoming Yukon Club Events:

APRIL

Easter Brunch

Sunday, April 16th, 9am-2pm

Yukon Club

A lavish buffet-style brunch!

MAY

Cinco de Mayo

May 5th @ 8PM

Yukon Club

with DJ Jose Martinez

Stand and Deliver

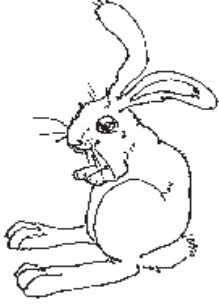
Eielson School Age Program



The Eielson School Age Program achieved accreditation by the National After School Association Accreditation program in the Fall of 2005. Way to go! The School Age Program continues to maintain high standards for before and after-school programs, benefiting Eielson's children (pictured).

Eielson AFB
SERVICES
Combat Support & Community Service

APRIL EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div><div>Month of the Military Child</div></div>						1 Non-pilot's safety course Aero Club Shelly Lares Band Yukon Club Fool's Night Talent Show Teen Break
2 Boys & Girls Club Week Week of the Young Child Chena Bike Ride 9am-4pm Outdoor Rec.	3 National Library Week	4 Ice Cream Social 3pm SAP	5 Skeet Lesson 5pm Outdoor Rec Beginner scrapbooking class 6-8pm Arts & Crafts	6 Family Child Care Parent Advis. Mtng. 11:30am-12:30pm Yukon Club Intro to Car Care 5pm Auto Hobby	7 Kids Night Out 6:30-11pm Youth Ctr Valdez "Extreme" Heli-Board Trip Apr 7-9 Outdoor Rec	8 Basic wood skills noon-3pm Wood Hobby Pet Show 11am-2pm Youth Center Teen Over-night at Birch Lake 6pm Sat -6am Sun.
9	10 FCC Family Egg Hunt 9:30-11:30am @ Community Center Intro to Car Care 5pm Auto Hobby	11 Safety meeting 7pm Intro to Car Care 5pm Auto Hobby	12	13 Intro to Car Care 5pm Auto Hobby Pre-School Easter Party 10:30am Community Ctr	14 Bunny Hop Family Bingo 5:30pm Community Ctr Intro to Car Care 5pm Auto Hobby	15 Easter Egg Hunt 2pm Community Ctr Birch Lake Getaway 15th-16th Outdoor Rec
16 Easter Brunch 9am-2pm Yukon Club	17 ODR Closed for move to Bear Lake (Through April 20th)	18 Avid Reader's Book Club 1st Meeting 6-7pm Community Ctr Progressive Dinner 4-6pm SAP	19 Trap Lesson 5pm Outdoor Rec Advanced scrapbooking 6-8pm Arts & Crafts Red Flag Mixer 6pm Yukon Club	20 Open House and Book Fair 6-7:30pm CDC	21 Kids Night Out 6:30-11pm Youth Ctr Military Child Photo Exhibit 8am-5pm @ FCC ODR Re-Opens	22 Global Youth Services Day Youth Ctr Parent-Child Toy-Making 10am-6pm Wood Hobby
23	24	25	26 Secretary's Day	27	28 Beach Party Fitness Center 5-9pm	29 Teen Paintball 1-5pm Youth Center Sign-up Deadline for May 6 Donnelly Dome Hike with Outdoor Rec

Arts & Crafts, Wood Skills, Auto Hobby



April 5
Beginner Scrapbooking. 6-8pm
April 8
Basic Wood Skills Class. 12-3pm
April 11
Intro to Car Care. 5pm
April 13-14
Intro to Car Care. 5pm
April 19
Advanced Scrapbooking. 6-8pm
April 22
Parent and Child Toy Making. 10am-6pm

Library



Wednesdays in April: Preschool Story Time, 9:30am. Ages 3-6. Ends April 26.

Fitness Center



April 1
Midnight Fools Run, 12am. Fitness Center.

School Age Program



April 4
Ice Cream Social, 3pm.
April 18
Progressive Dinner, 4-6pm.

Teen Break (Open Fridays and Saturdays, 7-11pm)

April 1
Fools' Night Talent Show
April 7
Open Mic Night
April 8
Game Night
April 14
Club Break
April 15
Old School Ten Night
April 21
80's Flashback Night
April 22
Techno Night
April 28
CLOSED

Child Development Center



April 20
Open House and Book Fair, 6-7:30pm.

Outdoor Recreation



April 1
Birch Hill Cross Country Ski Trip
April 2
Chena Bike Ride, 9am-430pm.
April 5
Skeet Lesson, 5pm.
April 7-9
Valdez Extreme Heli-Board Trip
April 15-16
Birch Lake Getaway
April 17
Equipment Checkout and Outdoor Rec CLOSES for relocation to Bear Lake
April 19
Trap Lesson, 5pm.
April 21
ODR re-opens at Bear Lake

Yukon Club



April 1
Shelly Lares Band, 7pm.
April 4, 11, 18, 25
Steak Night, 4-9pm.
April 6, 13, 20, 27
Pasta Night, 5-9pm.
April 14
Middle School Art Gallery, 3pm.
April 16
Easter Brunch, 9am-2pm
April 19
Red Flag Alaska Mixer, 6pm.
April 21
Red Flag Alaska Crud Tournament, 6pm.

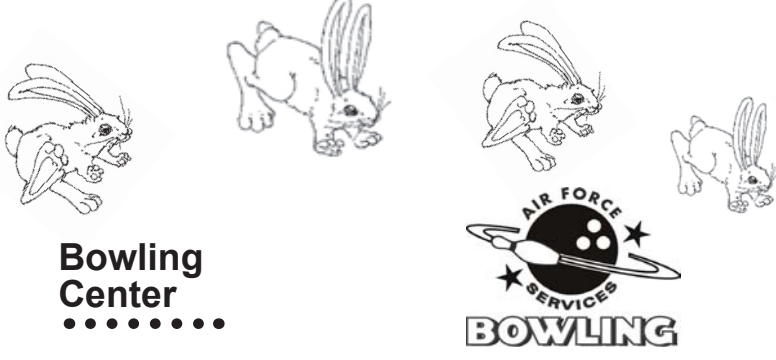


Surf to:
www.eielsonservices.com
To see phone numbers and hours of operation for Eielson Services Locations.

Aero Club



April 1
Non-Pilots Safety Course
April 2, 7, 10, 16, 19, 28
Fly four hours today with 4th hour free
April 3
50% off Instructor Fee for Instructor Prof Check
April 4, 9, 13, 21, 27
XC flight 4+hrs, \$5 off/hr
April 5, 14, 23
XC flight to Talkeetna, \$25 lunch credit
April 6, 12, 20, 30
XC flight to Bettles, \$25 lunch credit
April 7
Fly four hours with 4th hour free
April 8
GPS Course
April 9
XC flight 4+hrs, \$5 off/hr
April 10
Fly four hours today with 4th hour free
April 11
Mandatory Safety Meeting, 7pm.
April 15
Mountain Flying Course
April 17, 18, 22, 24, 25, 29
Gold King C/out, \$5/hr discount
April 26
Receive 2hrs. CFI fees for completed flight review



Bowling Center

April 1
April Fool's Special, \$1 games. 1-4pm
April 8, 29
Children bowl free with parent. 1-4pm
April 16
Broke After Taxes Special, 50 cent games. 2-5pm
April 17-20
Bowler of the Year Tournament
April 22
Colorama, 6pm.

Weekly Specials:
Thrifty Tuesdays: \$1 specials 5-8pm
Wednesdays: \$1 games 5-8pm
Fridays: Deployed families bowl 3 free games
Friday & Saturday: Thunder Alley 7-11pm
Saturdays: Red/Blue pin special 5-7pm

Youth Center



April 2-8
National B&GC Week Programs
April 7
Kids Night Out, 6:30pm-11pm.
April 8
Pet Show, 11am-2pm.
April 8-9
Teen Overnight at Birch Lake 6pm Sat. to 6am Sunday (Sign up in advance, space is limited.)
April 21
Kids Night Out, 6:30pm-11pm
April 22
Global Youth Services Day
April 29
Teen Paintball, 1-5pm.

Triple Play Sports, Fridays @ 3pm.

Youth Program Registration;
April 1st through 30th:
Baseball
Smart Start Golf
Running Club

Family Child Care



April 6
Family Child Care Parent Advisory Meeting 11:30-12:30 at the Club for lunch
April 10
FCC Family Egg Hunt 9:30-11:30 @ Community Center
April 17-21
FCC New Provider Orientation Class 9:00-12:00 FCC Training Room (Registration Deadline: April 13)
April 21
Military Child Photo Exhibit 8am-5:30pm @ FCC office

Community Center

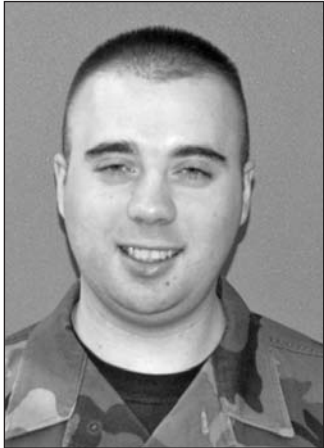


April 13
Pre-school Easter Party, 10:30am.
April 14
Family Bingo, 5:30pm.
April 15
Easter Egg Hunt, 2pm.
April 18
Avid Reader's Book Club, 6-7pm.
April 19
Book Appetite Lunch, 11:30am



HALL OF FAME

The Hall of Fame is a program for group commanders to recognize Airmen for excellent job performance.



Staff Sgt. Jason Shafer
NCOIC Clinical Administration
354th MDOS
Elkview, W.V.



Master Sgt. Susan Robinson
Food Services Manager
354th SVS
Garden, Mich.



Senior Airman Joseph Peirot
Munitions Controller
354th MXS
Cincinnati, Ohio

“He has shown exceptional leadership while transitioning from information management responsibilities to a patient care position. He is a positive role model and a proven mentor for those he supervises. The provider staff has lauded his professionalism. His attention to detail ensured continuity of care by increasing record availability to 95 percent.”

“She is a great leader in the Two Seasons Dining Facility. She has led the food service staff in becoming the number one rated dining facility in all of PACAF with the best value for price paid during FY05. She has also recently graduated from the food service managers course as the distinguished graduate of her class. She is an outstanding Iceman Team Member.”

“He meticulously coordinated 280 daily accountability reconciliations on sortie generated munitions valued at \$25 million. He verified the controlled item codes on \$59.1 million worth of munitions ensuring security measures were sustained. Additionally, he expertly performed 200 munitions custody asset moves in the combat ammunition system allowing higher headquarters to monitor aircraft loads real time with 100-percent accuracy. He is a phenomenal performer who has an enthusiastic attitude and shows individual pride in every task he’s assigned.”

Edwards behind plan to keep military retiree costs down

U.S. Rep. Chet Edwards, D-Waco, is part of a campaign seeking to stop the military from hiking health care fees on retired soldiers and officers for the first time in a dozen years.

Edwards and U.S. Rep. Walter Jones, R-N.C., announced a new bill recently that would block new fees in a medical system covering about 3 million retirees under age 65.

“This says to the administration on a bipartisan basis that the 2007 budget asks too much of military retirees,” Edwards said. “The budget proposal is in effect a tax on military retirees. These are men and women who have served our country for at least 20 years.”

Leaders within the Department of Defense hope to double or triple annual fees on some retirees by 2008 as they try to counter skyrocketing health care costs. The budget for the retiree health care program called Tricare has doubled from \$19 billion in 2001 to \$38 billion in 2006 and threatens to nearly double again by 2015 to \$64 billion, officials say.

“We just laid out the facts,” said Elder Granger, an Army brigadier general and deputy director of Tricare.

“We want to sustain the benefits and it’s up to Congress to decide how they want to do that,” he said. “We are trying to move in the right direction by partnering with patients and slightly increasing

the enrollment fee in order to maintain this very rich Tricare benefit.”

Tricare is the health plan for military service members and their families and military retirees. The proposed increases will affect only retirees under 65 who have spent at least 20 years in the military and choose to enroll in the health plan - currently, about 3 million beneficiaries.

Retirees currently pay 12 percent of the cost for their Tricare coverage, down from 27 percent in 1995, Granger said.

Edwards said the proposals will amount to \$1,000 a year in new fees for retired officers and \$450 for retired enlisted soldiers starting in 2008.

Lawmakers defeated recent proposed increases on Veterans Affairs health care programs in recent years, but these are the first proposals designed for Tricare.

Thirteen military organizations are supporting the Edwards-Jones legislation, Edwards said, including the American Legion.

“(We believe) strongly that career military personnel pay far greater premiums for their health care than any civilian, and pay them up front through arduous service,” wrote Ret. Vice Adm. Norbert R. Ryan Jr., president of the Military Officers Association of America.

For more information, call 377-5155. *Courtesy of TRICARE.*

NCC keeps base network humming

by 2nd Lt. Bryon McGarry
354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

From day one, prospective young Airmen are bombarded by images of pilots soaring high above the earth and special operations troops making daring rescues. It's easy to assume from these commercial pitches that all "cool" and important jobs must have something to do with jets or guns.

But Airmen that neither fly a jet or shoot a gun on a regular basis contribute, too. And the work many of them do behind the scenes, out of the Hollywood producer's view, can make or break mission accomplishment.

The Icemen of the 354th Communications Squadron's Network Control Center certainly fall into that low-visibility, high-responsibility category and are perfect examples of team-minded individuals whose work is vital to mission success.

NCC Technicians work diligently behind the scenes to ensure more than 3,000 users and 2,000 computers coexist peacefully so everyday tasks across base can get accomplished.

"The NCC is divided up into nine different work centers, each contributing to the overall operation of the base's computer network," said Master Sgt. Lisa Robinson, 354th CS network services NCO in charge. "For instance, the help desk tracks outages and disseminates information to the client support administrators, while application services is responsible for administering security patches on end-user personal computers."

Most NCC offices operate during normal duty hours with someone on call at all times. Because the help desk acts as a focal point for the rest of the NCC, they operate 24/7, she added.

The help desk isn't the only phase of the NCC that works round-the-clock to keep Eielson's network up and running. In fact, the NCC continually oversees an ever-changing, ever-evolving mesh of systems, hardware and processes to allow Icemen to accomplish their respective missions.

"A lot of people may not have noticed, but we're actually in the final stages of a base-wide network upgrade," said Senior Airman Dan Patrick, 354th CS network management and circuit actions journeyman. "We've been changing switches, adding switches and increasing overall network speed, which affects file transfers and e-mail among other processes."

The setup is similar to getting water or utilities turned on when moving into a new home. The switches allow a particular building access to the base network, while ports throughout the building allow individual users access to the switches.

The NCC works closely with the Defense Information Systems Agency to ensure Eielson is at least on par with the latest technological initiatives being implemented throughout the Department of Defense.

"They keep us as current as they possibly can and they do a great job of it," Airman Patrick said. "We have an excellent working relationship."

The NCC's recent upgrades are derived from the Combat Infrastructure Transport System, which outlines communications infrastructure installation and upkeep throughout the Air Force, said Master Sgt. Chuck Cochran, 354th CS network management chief.

"These upgrades that we've been working on, in layman's terms, have boosted our network speed 10 fold," he said. "If your computer wants to communicate with anything, it uses this system, so we're making it as efficient as possible."

Despite planning and preemptive maintenance, unforeseen complications naturally arise, often causing hair pulling and unsavory commentary by disgruntled network users throughout the base, as they watch network drives go down and hours of work disappear.

Senior Airmen Jessica Miller and Gino Cianelli, 354th CS NCC network administrators, highlighted another NCC system that ensures users' hard work is recoverable.

"Our automated tape library holds data from all share drives to ensure any lost data can be recovered," she said. "We switch the tapes out daily and keep them archived for about three months before they're recycled into the system."

Airman Cianelli stressed the importance of the ATL in ensuring any breaks in network continuity are short.

"If the network was to go down, we could bring it back up almost seamlessly," he said. "If there is a break in service the controlling software that manages the ATL ensures that the down

time is significantly less."

Continually juggling the seemingly innumerable software changes, server patches, hardware upgrades and virus protections that keep the network humming is simply the day-to-day mission for NCC members. But Capt. Ward Willis, 354th CS Information Systems Operations Officer, stresses that the NCC is also forward leaning and always looking to improve quality of service for its customers.

"We have several improvement initiatives in progress," he said. "One such project is enabling common access card usage throughout the base, which will increase security by ensuring users have both the physical token (CAC) and personal identification number associated with the card. This will enable users to digitally sign and encrypt e-mails. An added benefit for users is that they will be able to authenticate to most DoD Web sites using their CAC instead of remembering a user name and password for each site."

Although most of their work takes place behind the scenes with little opportunity for visibility and recognition, knowing their efforts keep the network running securely and efficiently keeps them motivated.

Without the transport systems the NCC maintains, the base customers would have no access to e-mail, shared drives and the internet, Sergeant Cochran said.

Consummate quiet professionals, the NCC staff presses on behind the scenes to keep Eielson's network operating smoothly.



Above, Senior Airman Dan Patrick, 354th Communications Squadron network management and circuit actions journeyman, tests a server switch for connectivity.



Left, Senior Airmen Gino Cianelli and Jessica Miller, 354th CS network administrators, switch storage tapes for the network's automated tape library. The tapes store data from Eielson shared drives in case of a system crash. Above, Airman Patrick verifies proper configuration of the network's server system. Network Control Center technicians ensure Eielson's network integrity with the latest security and virus protections and the most current software and hardware upgrades.



Photos By 2nd Lt Bryon McGarry